

nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. The specification failed to adequately disclose how the upper portion of the towers could be "flexible". It was not clear what kind of material of the upper portions are made of, and how are they "flexible" relative to the middle or lower portions of the entire towers. It is noted that the lower portions of the towers appear to contain propelling means (421) and it was not clear how the flexibility of the upper portions effect the lower portions, the cables, and the carriers. The specification merely stated that the upper portion as being "flexible" without further description. Accordingly, the specification as originally filed failed to adequately disclose the upper portion of the towers in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and/or use the invention.

Applicant respectfully believes that pages 8 through 14 of the present application indicate that the current invention involves several towers **401**, each supporting a cable **302** that is attached to a carrier **303** for participants, and a means for propelling the carrier **303**.

Lines 2 through 14 on page 8 provide:

As its name implies, the Amusement Ride with Cable-launched Carrier has, as illustrated in Figure 1 and Figure 2, a cable **302** suspended from a tower **401**. Preferably, there are a multitude of cables **302** and towers **401**, more preferably and odd number, and most preferably three.

At least the upper portion **402** of at least one tower **401** and, preferably of all the towers **401**, is flexible.

A means **421** for propelling a carrier **303** for one or more participants is attached either to a first end **304** of each cable **302** or at an intermediate point between the first end **304** and the second end **305** of a cable **302**. The second end **305** of each cable **302** is connected to the carrier **303**.

This means can be any mechanism that is well known in the art for propelling a carrier **303** of an amusement ride. For example, it can be a high-speed winch, a fluid-powered cylinder having a continuous cable, or a fluid-powered cylinder having a non-continuous cable.

And lines 10 through 23 on page 14 explain:

The most preferred embodiment of the Amusement Ride with Cable-launched Carrier comprises three towers **401**, each tower suspending a cable **302**, with at least one of said towers **401** having a flexible upper portion **402**; associated with each cable **302**, a fluid-powered cylinder **403** having a non-continuous cable, oriented with the valve **413** downward, and connected to the

cable 302 at an intermediate point of the cable 302; a transfer cable 406 which is flexible and bends around any device 420 for changing the direction of a physical force without creating substantial friction, such as a pulley, so that the transfer cable 406 travels upward before connecting to the slide 408 around the cable 302 in order, as described above, to connect a fluid-powered cylinder 403 to each cable 302; a pressurizable cylinder 310 connected to the first end 304 of each cable 302 and to the object 309 as the means for applying a pulling force along the cable 302 in the direction away from the carrier 303 to which the cable 302 is attached, with the object 309 located horizontally near the device 420; for each cable 320, another device 420 around which the cable 302 passes between the slide 408 and the first end 304 of the cable 302; and a carrier 303 connected to the second end of each cable 302.

And lines 9 through 11 on page 5 of the present application clarify that at least the upper portion of at least one of the towers 401 moves in response to acceleration of the carrier 303 in order to cushion the force on the carrier 303 and, consequently, on participants on the carrier 303:

At least the upper portion of at least one of the towers and, preferably, all of the towers is flexible. Movement of the towers in response to acceleration of the carrier cushions the carrier and, consequently, participants on the carrier.

Applicant respectfully suggests that one skilled in the art will understand that, in an amusement ride, such cushioning is subsidiary to acceleration of the carrier 303 and the participants. Thus, one skilled in the art will also recognize that each tower 401 must be adequately rigid to permit the desired acceleration of the carrier 303 and participants. Although some movement of a tower 401 when an accelerative force is applied to the carrier 303 will, in accordance with well-understood principles of physics, reduce the force applied to the carrier, one skilled in the art will recognize that such movement must not be so great as to detract from the excitement of the acceleration which is a mainstay of amusement rides.

The towers 401 are constructed of any material known in the art, such as steel; and for the purposes of this application, flexibility, thus, means that the portion of the tower 401 from which

the cable 402 is suspended will move to such an extent as to cushion the accelerative force on the carrier 303 but not so far as to detract from the excitement of such acceleration. At a minimum, not every tower 401 can be absolutely rigid. This is what Applicant believes on of ordinary skill in the art will understand "flexible" in the context of the present patent application to mean.

One skilled in the art will understand that a tower 401 will have movement of its upper portion, from which the cable 402 is suspended, if actions, such as installing guy wires, are not taken to preclude such movement. And guy wires, among other techniques, are often used in the amusement ride industry to create such rigidity.

Applicant has attempted to clarify what Applicant believes was already implicit in the application for one of ordinary skill in the art. Should the Examiner desire any further clarification in order to permit examination of the present application, Applicant will be pleased to provide it.

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Respectfully,

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